

**From:** [MassMailer](#)  
**To:** [MassMailer](#)  
**Subject:** Request from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for Volunteers to Work on Hurricanes Harvey and Irma Response Efforts  
**Date:** Friday, September 15, 2017 11:37:56 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.jpg](#)



**Message from:** Donna J. Vizian, Acting Assistant Administrator, Office of Administration and Resources Management

Many EPA employees have been directly affected by the devastation caused by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. Many of our colleagues are already working in the south as part of EPA's own response efforts. Those directly affected by the hurricanes and those who are helping them are all in our thoughts at this time. We appreciate those who have been so eager to help.

As part of the federal response in the aftermath of Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency anticipates the need to deploy up to 2,000 volunteers from federal agencies to the hurricane-affected areas to support the Surge Capacity Force. Federal employee volunteers will be asked to work in a hurricane region for approximately 30-45 days. Volunteers must be physically able to perform arduous and potentially traumatic tasks outdoors for long hours in disaster areas. FEMA is interested in identifying volunteers with skills and experience in disaster and survivor outreach and assistance, logistics, information technology, hazard mitigation, telecommunications, external affairs, environmental and historic preservation, human resources, finance, and acquisitions.

Employees interested in volunteering need to understand the volunteer selection process, types of work that will be performed, required skills, working and living conditions, and the required training and logistical support volunteers will receive. Employees will also need to have an EPA PIV card and federal government travel card to serve as a volunteer. Relevant Surge Capacity Force information including the EPA application and supervisory approval forms and process can be found at: <http://intranet.epa.gov/ohr/surge-capacity-force/index.htm>

While we are eager to support this FEMA request, it is important that emergency response staff and technical experts already involved in the EPA response (including the Response Support Corps) not volunteer for this effort. Your expertise will continue to support the EPA mission in these hurricane-affected locations.

If you have questions regarding the FEMA call for Surge Capacity Force volunteers, please contact the EPA points of contact Linda Gray and Bobby Moore, Office of Human Resources, Office of Administration and Resources Management, at (202) 564-4606.



7033713